

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DACCA 00356 01 OF 02 210800Z
ACTION LAB-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-13 /043 W
-----210825Z 124313 /11
R 210630Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3309

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 DACCA 0356

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ILO, ELAB, XG
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ILO ACTIVITIES IN
BANGLADESH

REF: STATE 003255

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: THERE IS AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAM OF ILO-RELATED PROJECTS IN BANGLADESH. TWO ILO-EXECUTED, UNDP-FINANCED PROJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND ONE PROJECT IS SUFFICIENTLY IN PROGRESS FOR A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION. TEN PROJECTS ARE EITHER AWAITING BDG APPROVAL OR HAVE ONLY RECENTLY BEEN APPROVED. ADDITIONALLY, FOUR OTHER PROJECTS FOR WHICH THERE IS NO EVALUATIVE INFORMATION ARE IN PROGRESS. THUS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETED, ONGOING AND PROPOSED PROJECTS IS SEVENTEEN. CURRENTLY, THE BDG IS ALSO JOINTLY SPONSORING WITH THE ILO A WORKSHOP ON EMPLOYMENT POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. INFORMATION ON THE ILO PROJECTS WAS OBTAINED FROM AN AMERICAN STAFF MEMBER OF THE LOCAL UNDP. AS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL, IT WAS CONSIDERED UNWISE TO APPROACH THE LOCAL ILO OFFICE DIRECTLY, PARTICULARLY AS THE DIRECTOR IS BULGARIAN. THEREFORE, SOME EVALUATIVE INFORMATION CANNOT BE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DACCA 00356 01 OF 02 210800Z

SUPPLIED.

3. TWO ILO-EXECUTED, UNDP-FINANCED PROJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. ONE OF THEM, ENTITLED "ASSISTANCE TO THE BANGLADESH ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION (BRTC)", HAD AS ITS OBJECTIVES: "TO ESTABLISH A MECHANICS APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME WITHIN BRTC; TO TRAIN MECHANICS, SPECIALISTS AND MECHANICAL

INSTRUCTORS; TO INSTITUTE A DRIVER TRAINING PROGRAM; TO ESTABLISH MODERN WORKSHOP MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES; VAND TO TRANSFER MANAGEMENT OF TRAINING SCHEME TO EXISTING AUTOMOTIVE TRAINING INSTITUTION." THE PROJECT, BEGUN IN 1973 AND ORIGINALLY FUNDED FOR \$343,962, SEEMED APPROPRIATE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF BANGLADESH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THE TRAINING OF DRIVERS AND MECHANICS WAS NOT DIRECTLY CONDITIONAL ON OTHER DEVELOPMENTS. THE DEGREE OF WORKER INVOLVMENT IN THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM WAS LIKELY NEGLIGIBLE, CONSIDERING THE TRAINING NATURE OF THE PROGRAM. IN THIS PROJECT, EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION WAS NOT A CONCERN AS THE BRTC IS A GOVERNMENT-OPERATED ORGANIZATION. THE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM FROM THE ILO WAS A PROBLEM IN THAT THE ILO HIRED INEXPERIENCED LOCAL INSTRUCTORS. THIS DECISION LED TO THE EVENTUAL FAILURE OF THE PROGRAM AND IT WAS TERMINATED AFTER ABOUT TWO YEARS. AFTER APPROPRIATE ILO EVALUATION, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE CONCEPT OF THE PROGRAM STILL HAD MERIT IF THE INSTRUCTORS WERE NOT HIRED LOCALLY. THE PROGRAM WAS RE-SUBMITTED IN 1975 AND ALTHOUGH BDG APPROVAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED, THE NEW PROGRAM HAS NOT YET STARTED.

4. THE OTHER PROJECT WHICH HAS BEEN COMPLETED INVOLVED SETTING UP AN INLAND WATERWAYS DECK PERSONNEL TRAINING CENTER IN NARAYANGANJ. THIS PROJECT, INITIALLY BEGUN BEFORE 1971, WHEN BANGLADESH WAS PART OF PAKISTAN, WAS COMPLETED ONLY LAST YEAR AT A COST OF \$773,784. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT, TO TRAIN DECK PERSONNEL TO OPERATE RIVER STEAMERS, FIT INTO THE BDG'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DACCA 00356 01 OF 02 210800Z

THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT WOULD NOT BE DIRECTLY CONDITIONAL ON OTHER PROJECTS. AS IN THE PROJECT DESCRIBED ABOVE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT TRIPARTISM WAS STRICTLY OBSERVED, SINCE THE TRAINEE-WORKERS FOLLOWED AN ILO PRESCRIBED PROGRAM. THE ILO-RECRUITED INSTRUCTORS WERE TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED AND THE BDG WAS COOPERATIVE. THE ILO PROVIDED EQUIPMENT FOR THE CENTER, INCLUDING A TRAINING VESSEL. WHETHER A FORMAL FOLLOW-UP EVALUATION WAS CONDUCTED IS NOT KNOWN, BUT THE PROJECT SEEMS TO HAVE MET ITS GOALS AND THE CENTER CONTINUES TO OPERATE EVEN THOUGH ILO COOPERATION IN THE PROJECT IS COMPLETED. TWO DIFFICULTIES CONTINUE TO HINDER THE OPERATION OF THE CENTER. ONE PROBLEM IS THE EXPENSE INVOLVED MERELY IN MAINTAINING THE TRAINING VESSEL. THE OTHER PROBLEM IS THE DIFFICULTY IN RETAINING THE BANGLADESHI INSTRUCTORS TRAINED BY THE FOREIGN EXPERTS. ONCE THE BANGLADESHI INSTRUCTORS ARE TRAINED TO THE INSTRUCTOR LEVEL, THEY OFTEN TAKE ADVANTAGE THEMSELVES OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES, USUALLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

5. THE ONE PROJECT SUFFICIENTLY IN PROGRESS TO BE
PARTICALLY EVALUATED IS ENTITLED: "IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOP-
MENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES", ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED FOR
BDG APPROVAL IN 1973 AND APPROVED AT A COST OF \$273,507
IN 1975. THE PROJECT IS OFFICIALLY DESCRIBED BY THE UNDP
AS AN EFFORT "TO IMPROVE LABOR EXCHANGE FUNCTIONS THROUGH
TRAINING, SPECIALIZATION IN TECHNICAL MATTERS AND ESTABLISH-
MENT OF THE DACCA EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE AS A MODEL EXCHANGE."
THE PROJECT MAY BE GENERALLY APPROPRIATE TO THE BDG'S
DEVELOPMENT PLANS, BUT THE PROJECT IS, OF COURSE, AIMED AT THE
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR OF BANGLADESH, ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY
OF WORKERS, PERHAPS 80 PERCENT, ARE EMPLOYED IN THE AGRI-
CULTURAL SECTOR. FURTHERMORE, THE SUCCESSFUL REALIZATION OF
THE PROJECT IS CONDITIONAL ON THE EXISTENCE OF JOBS FOR
APPLICANTS ONCE THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE IS ESTABLISHED.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT CONSIDERABLE TRIPARTITE DECISION MAKING
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 DACCA 00356 01 OF 02 210800Z

HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT, BUT IT IS DIFFICULT AT THIS
STAGE TO DETERMINE EACH GROUP'S IMPACT. INSTITUTIONAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DACCA 00356 02 OF 02 210818Z
ACTION LAB-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-13 /043 W
-----210825Z 124524 /11
R 210630Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3310

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 DACCA 0356

SUPPORT FROM BOTH THE BDG AND THE ILO HAS BEEN A PROBLEM.
THE ORIGINAL PROJECT MANAGER WAS RECALLED BY HIS GOVERN-
MENT AFTER WORKING ONE YEAR ON THE PROJECT. A SIX-MONTH
GAP OCCURRED BEFORE A REPLACEMENT COULD BE FOUND. FROM THE
BDG SIDE, THERE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE DELAYS IN DECISION

MAKING AT THE BUREAU OF MANPOWER, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. THE BUREAU, RECENTLY ORGANIZED, IS UNDER-STAFFED AND THE FEW WELL-QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES OVER-WORKED. BECAUSE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS, THE PROGRAM IS BEHIND SCHEDULE AND HAS NOT YET MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

6. THE REMAINING TEN ILO-EXECUTED, UNDP-FINANCED PROJECTS HAVE EITHER YET TO BE APPROVED OR HAVE BEEN APPROVED AND ARE IN THE INITIAL ORGANIZING STAGES. BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS FOLLOW:

A. PROJECTS AWAITING APPROVAL:

1. MANPOWER SURVEY: EVALUATION AND DESIGN OF
(\$14,720) COMPREHENSIVE MANPOWER SURVEY ENCOMPASSING WHOLE ECONOMY;

2. VOCATIONAL TRAINING DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DACCA 00356 02 OF 02 210818Z

DEVELOPMENT: SCHEME AND GOVERNMENT
(\$2,210,031) COORDINATION;

3. WEAVERS' COOPERATIVES: (\$1,300,000) NO DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE;

4. LABOR INTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE TECHNIQUES: (\$192,000) NO DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE;

5. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES: IMPROVE MARKETING AND
(\$800,000) DESIGN OF COTTAGE INDUSTRY PRODUCTS;

6. MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT: (\$1,000,000) IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS FOR MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND DRAWING UP TO PROJECT DOCUMENT COVERING LONGER-TERM TRAINING NEEDS.

B. PROJECTS APPROVED AND IN PRELIMINARY STAGES:

1. BANGLADESH ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION (BRTC): (\$722,049) TRAIN BRTC MANAGER, MECHANICS, DRIVERS AND FOREMEN. (A RERUN OF THAT DESCRIBED IN PARA 3 ABOVE);

2. RURAL WORKS: TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT
(\$89,240) IN THE EFFICIENT IMPLE-
MENTATION OF RURAL WORKS
PROGRAMME THROUGH TRAINING
IN EXECUTION AND CONTROLLING
OF RURAL Y4(049'3:5 ;

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DACCA 00356 02 OF 02 210818Z

3. LOW LIFT PUMPS: DRAFT PROJECT DOCUMENT AND
(\$1,371,685) ASCERTAIN NEEDS TO TRAIN
DIESEL PUMP OPERATORS
AND MECHANICS;

4. TECHNICAL TRAINING REHABILITATION OF THE
CENTER CHITTAGONG: CENTER AND DEVELOPMENT OF
(\$882,000) COURSE TRAINING.

7. FOUR OTHER PROJECTS ARE IN PROGRESS, BUT INFORMATION
CANNOT BE OBTAINED WITHOUT DEALING MORE DIRECTLY WITH THE
ILO. ONE PROJECT INVOLVING ONE PERSON DOING RESEARCH ON
WAGES AND INCENTIVES IS FINANCED BY THE ILO; ANOTHER PRO-
JECT TO DEVELOP A MARINE DESEL TRAINING CENTER IN
NARAYANGANJ IS FINANCED BY NORAD, THE NORWEGIAN AID PROGRAM;
AND TWO PROJECTS TALLING \$308,396 TO PROVIDE FAMILY
PLANNING EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO TRADE UNION
OFFICIALS AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS ARE ADMINISTERED
JOINTLY WITH THE UNITED NATIONAL FUND FOR POPULATION
ASSISTANCE (UNFPA).

8. DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 17-21, 1977, THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND THE ILO
SPONSORED A WORKSHOP ON "EMPLOYMENT POLICY AND ITS
IMPLEMENTATION", THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THIS NATURE TO
BE HELD IN BANGLADESH. TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ILO

REGIONAL TEAM IN EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION FROM BANGKOK AND
ONE ECONOMIST FROM ILO HEADQUARTERS GENEVA ATTENDED THE
WORKING SESSIONS.

9. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP HAS BEEN TO IDENTIFY THE
PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT,
NOT ONLY IN BANGLADESH BUT IN THE ENTIRE DEVELOPING WORLD.
THE ILO AND THE BDG APPEAR TO HAVE WORKED CAREFULLY TO
PREPARE THE WORKSHOP. THE BDG HAS PROVIDED FACILITIES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 DACCA 00356 02 OF 02 210818Z

AND HAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY TO THE CONDERENCE. THE
WORKSHOP, WHICH HAS YET TO BE COMPLETED AS THIS REPORT IS
WRITTEN, HAS BEEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY ATTENDED, BUT ONLY IF
APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP OCCURS, EITHER AS EVALUATION OR
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE AT THE CONFERENCE,
WILL THE WORKSHOP BE A SUCCESS.
MASTERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION CONTROL, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA00356
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770022-0805
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770131/aaaabaqu.tel
Line Count: 287
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c71061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION LAB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 3255
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3541845
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ILO ACTIVITIES IN BANGLADESH
TAGS: ELAB, BG, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c71061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009